

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A computer-implemented search processing method, comprising:

searching a predetermined document group according to a first search condition specified by a user to extract data of a plurality of documents from a storage that stores said predetermined document group;

transforming said data of said plurality of documents into data-information to indicate said data of said plurality of documents to said user in a first display form and to enable said user to select ~~each~~ a display item to be utilized as a second search condition in a following processing key, and outputting the transformed data-information;

extracting data of documents corresponding to said display ~~items directly or indirectly~~ item selected by said user; and

transforming said data of said documents corresponding to said selected display ~~items~~ item into data-information to indicate said data of said documents to said user in a second display form specified by said user and to enable said user to select ~~each~~ a display item specified based on said data of said documents to be utilized as a third search condition in a following processing key, and outputting the transformed data-information.

2. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein each said first and second display forms is at least either of

a form showing indications of extracted documents that have been classified by used words, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter of said document~~ in said extracted documents,

a form showing indications of said extracted documents, and segments between the indications, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter, and each said segment representing a degree of relevancy between said extracted documents, that is calculated by used words~~ in said extracted documents,

a form showing a graph representing a result obtained by classifying and aggregating said extracted documents based on used words in said extracted documents;

a form showing used words in said extracted documents and ~~connection lines~~ segments representing a degree of relevancy among said used words, and

a form showing first indications of document groups, second indications of used words in said extracted documents, and ~~connection lines~~ segments between said first indication ~~indications~~ and said second indication ~~indications~~, each said first indication including a specific matter, said document group being composed of said extracted documents associated by said a specific matter, and each of said connection line segments representing a degree of relevancy between said document group and said used word.

3. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first transforming comprises:

~~clustering each dividing said plurality of documents document into clusters~~ by using said data of said plurality of documents;

extracting second data to be displayed ~~concerning a display matter predefined for said first display form~~ from said data of said plurality of documents, wherein a type of the extracted second data is predefined for said first display form; and

generating, for each said cluster, information ~~data~~ to display the extracted second data to be utilized as said second search condition in said following processing ~~concerning said display matter as said following processing key for each cluster~~.

4. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first transforming comprises:

calculating a degree of relevancy between said plurality of documents by using said data of said plurality of documents;

extracting, for each of said plurality of documents a data item to be displayed ~~concerning a display matter predefined for said first display form, for each said document,~~ from said data of said plurality of documents, wherein a type of said data item is predefined for said first display form; and

generating ~~data~~ information to display ~~said the extracted~~ data items to be utilized as said second search condition in said following processing in ~~concerning said display matter, each said data item being extracted for each said document and being said following processing key,~~

and a segment that connects between said data items and represents the calculated degree of relevancy between said documents corresponding to said data items.

5. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first transforming comprises:

~~classifying-dividing~~ said plurality of documents into classes based on used words included in said data of said plurality of documents, and counting a number of documents in each said class based on a specific matter predefined for said first display form; and ~~generate data~~ generating information to display the counting result.

6. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first transforming comprises:

calculating a degree of relevancy between used words included in said data of said plurality of documents; and

~~generating data~~ information to display said used words to be utilized as said second search condition in said following processing ~~keys~~, and a segment that connects between said used words and represents the calculated degree of relevancy between said used words.

7. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first transforming comprises:

relating said plurality of documents into document groups based on a specific matter predefined for said first display form;

calculating a degree of relevancy between said document group and ~~each a~~ used word included in said data of said plurality of documents; and

~~generating data~~ information to display said document ~~group as said following processing key, groups~~ by said data of said specific matter, and the calculated degree of relevancy between said document group and said used word, by a segment connecting between said document group and said used word, wherein said document group and said used word are to be utilized as said second search condition in said following processing.

8. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second transforming comprises:

~~clustering each dividing said documents corresponding to said selected display item into clusters document by using said data of said documents corresponding to said selected display item specified from said selected display items;~~

~~extracting third data to be displayed concerning a display matter predefined for said second display form from said data of the specified said documents corresponding to said selected display item, wherein a type of the extracted third data is predefined for said second display form; and~~

~~generating, for each said cluster, data information to display the extracted third data to be utilized as said third search condition in said following processing concerning said display matter as said following processing key for each cluster.~~

9. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second transforming comprises:

~~calculating a degree of relevancy between said documents corresponding to said selected display item by using said data of said documents corresponding to said selected display items specified from said selected display items;~~

~~extracting, for each said documents corresponding to said selected display item, a data item to be displayed concerning a display matter predefined for said second display form, for each said specified document, from said data of the specified said documents corresponding to said selected display item; and~~

~~generating data information to display said the extracted data items concerning said display matter, each said data item being extracted for each said specified document and being to be utilized as said third search condition in said following processing key, and a segment that connects between said data items and represents the calculated degree of relevancy between said specified documents corresponding to said selected display item.~~

10. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second transforming comprises:

~~classifying dividing said documents specified from said selected display items corresponding to said selected display item into classes based on used words included in said data of the specified said documents corresponding to said selected display item, and counting a number of documents in each said class based on a specific matter predefined for said second display form; and~~

~~generate data generating information to display the counting result.~~

11. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second transforming comprises:

calculating a degree of relevancy between used words included in said data of said ~~documents~~ documents corresponding to said selected display item ~~specified from the selected display items~~; and

generating ~~data~~ information to display said used words to be utilized as said third search condition of said following processing ~~keys~~, and a segment that connects between said used words and represents the calculated degree of relevancy between said used words.

12. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second transforming comprises:

categorizing said documents corresponding to said selected display item ~~specified from the selected display items~~ into document groups based on a specific matter predefined for said ~~first~~ second display form;

calculating a degree of relevancy between said document group and ~~each a~~ used word included in said data of ~~the specified~~ said documents corresponding to said selected display item; and

generating ~~data~~ information to display said document group ~~as said following processing key, groups by~~ said data of said specific matter, and the calculated degree of relevancy between said document group and said used word; by a segment connecting between said document group and said used word, said document group and said work to be utilized as said third search condition in said following processing.

13. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein a document included in said predetermined document group is a patent document, and said display item is either of bibliographic information of said patent document and a used word in said patent document.

14. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least either of said first and second transformings comprises specifying a display program corresponding to a display form, and generating ~~data~~ information for said display program.

15. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least either of said first and second display forms is an arbitrary combination of predefined display forms.

16. (currently amended) A computer readable medium storing instructions to control a processor to perform a method comprising~~program embodied on a medium, for causing a computer to execute a search processing, said program comprising:~~

searching a predetermined document group according to a first search condition specified by a user to extract data of a plurality of documents from a storage that stores said predetermined document group;

transforming said data of said plurality of documents into data information to indicate said data of said plurality of documents to said user in a first display form and to enable said user to select ~~each a display item~~ to be utilized as second search condition in as a following processing ~~key~~, and outputting the transformed ~~data~~ information;

extracting data of documents corresponding to said display ~~items directly or indirectly~~ item selected by said user; and

transforming said data of said documents corresponding to said selected display ~~items~~ into data item into information to indicate said data of said documents to said user in a second display form specified by said user and to enable said user to select ~~each a display item~~ specified based on said data of said documents as to be utilized as a third search condition in a following processing ~~key~~, and outputting the transformed ~~data~~ information.

17. (currently amended) The computer readable medium ~~program~~ as set forth in claim 16, wherein each said first and second display forms is at least either of

a form showing indications of extracted documents that have been classified by used words, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter of said document~~ in said extracted documents,

a form showing indications of said extracted documents, and segments between the indications, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter, and~~ each said segment representing a degree of relevancy between said extracted documents, that is calculated by used words in said extracted documents,

a form showing a graph representing a result obtained by classifying and aggregating said extracted documents based on used words in said extracted documents;

a form showing used words in said extracted documents and ~~connection lines~~ segments representing a degree of relevancy among said used words, and

a form showing first indications of document groups, second indications of used words, ~~in said extracted documents and connection lines~~ segments between said first indication ~~indications~~ and said second indication, each said first indication including a specific matter, ~~indications~~ said document group being composed of said extracted documents associated by ~~said a specific matter, and each of said connection line~~ segments representing a degree of relevancy between said document group and said used word.

18. (currently amended) A search processing apparatus, comprising:

a search unit ~~to search~~ that searches a predetermined document group according to a first search condition specified by a user to extract data of a plurality of documents;

a first transformer ~~to transform~~ that transforms said data of said plurality of documents into data information to indicate said data of said plurality of documents to said user in a first display form and to enable said user to select ~~each a display item as~~ to be utilized as a second search condition a following processing key, and outputting the transformed ~~data~~ information;

an extractor ~~to extract~~ that extracts data of documents corresponding to said display ~~items directly or indirectly~~ item selected by said user; and

a second transformer ~~to transform~~ that transforms said data of said documents corresponding to said selected display ~~items~~ item into data information to indicate said data of said documents to said user in a second display form specified by said user and to enable said user to select ~~each a display item specified based on said data of said documents as~~ to be utilized as a third search condition in a following processing key, and outputting the transformed ~~data~~ information.

19. (currently amended) The computer-implemented search processing apparatus as set forth in claim 17, wherein each said first and second display forms is at least either of

a form showing indications of extracted documents that have been classified by used words, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter of said document~~ in said extracted documents,

a form showing indications of said extracted documents, and segments between the indications, ~~each said indication including a predefined display matter, and each said segment~~ representing a degree of relevancy between said extracted documents, that is calculated by used words in said extracted documents,

a form showing a graph representing a result obtained by classifying and aggregating said extracted documents based on used words in said extracted documents;

a form showing used words in said extracted documents and ~~connection lines~~ segments representing a degree of relevancy among said used words, and

a form showing first indications of document groups, second indications of used words, in said extracted documents, and ~~connection lines~~ segments between said first indication ~~indications~~ and said second indication, each said first indication including a specific ~~matter~~ indications, said document group being composed of said extracted documents associated by ~~said~~ a specific matter, and each of said ~~connection line~~ segments representing a degree of relevancy between said document group and said used word.